
Message from IAAP 2011-2012 President Tamara Goodall, CAP-OM

To Division and Chapter Presidents and Presidents-elect and Vice Presidents:

I enjoy ushering in a fresh year. There's something inviting about not simply turning the page on the calendar but cracking open a new calendar. It welcomes opportunity, ideas and encourages me to set goals. What do you like about starting a new year?

I'm starting off this calendar year with an exciting announcement. I am pleased to introduce IAAP's new executive director, Gerald J. "Jay" Donohue, Jr., CAE, CMP. Jay comes to IAAP with an impressive résumé. He's had over 18 years of association experience, having served as executive director/chief administrative officer and chief operations officer for three major national and international membership organizations. His background also includes serving as an executive job coach with the nation's first, oldest and premier outplacement firm, Challenger, Gray and Christmas.

Over the years, Jay has been responsible for the operation and services for the International Association of Defense Council, the Academy of General Dentistry and the Professional Convention Management Association. He has implemented new organizational strategic plans and also assisted with the restructuring of administrative and governance systems. He's skillful at finding and implementing creative solutions. Jay is also excellent in developing employee talent and in training.

The board and I are excited that Jay is taking the helm at IAAP. We're confident that 2012 holds many good things for the staff and the association.

To all of you who took the certification exam in November, I want to extend my congratulations and admiration for taking the step to advance in your profession. I've taken the exam to become certified and I know it's difficult. For those who passed, congratulations. For those who didn't, don't give up! Getting that certification is something to continue to work towards.

You spoke and we listened. For those of you who are already certified, we have a new specialty for you. You've told us that keeping up on the latest technology is important and we're here to help you do just that. Starting this year, IAAP is offering a new specialty: Technology Applications. Complete three [Options Technology modules](#) then pass a Microsoft test in one of those areas and you're qualified to send in the application and fees for the Technology Applications specialty. Read all about it on [the IAAP public website](#).

We know how important training is to you. Learn something new and earn rave reviews at your office by attending [IAAP's Spring Conference](#). Like a great movie, every office has its own set of characters, plot, setting and theme. The key to success is directing all these elements into a compelling and productive story. At this year's IAAP Spring Conference, you'll learn how to identify your office's genre and write the script for your own workplace blockbuster. On Sunday we're offering an optional, interactive technology workshop with Gini Courter. I'm going—are you?

Please remind your chapter and division members about these upcoming deadlines:

January 15: Deadline for IAAP BOD and RTF Trustee nominations

February 1: Deadline for IAAP committees and RTFC candidate forms returned

February 1: Deadline for proposed bylaws amendments submission.

February 1: Deadline for Avery Great Results Chapter and Division Achievement Awards

Happy New Year everyone!

Tamra Goodall, CAP-OM
IAAP International President